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The Beacon



**RI President
Dong Kurn Lee**

**9710 DG
Phil Mewett**

**President
Ted Bladwell**

**Secretary
John Messner**

**Treasurer
Kris Elphick**

**Apologies to
Phil Gaffney
the Tuesday
before the
meeting on
44765547 or
you will be
charged for
your meal.**

The Rotary Club of Narooma Inc. Bulletin

Ted's Tips

Hi all,

Another Duck Race over!

It was a tremendous effort by all to sell all the tickets in just 9 days! Our thanks to members who sold through the caravan parks and at the Markets on Sunday. All proceeds of course are to go to the purchase of another *Shelterbox*.

Another excellent Market on Sunday with \$2100 taken in great weather. Our thanks to Fred Fawke for taking the time to bring the *Shelterbox* for display. It really created an interest to the Public and helped the sale of the Duck Race tickets.

The District 9710 Assembly will be held in the Highlands at Bowral on the 28th & 29th March and all incoming Club officers are invited to attend. This is a very informative Rotary weekend and regardless if you are an 'old' Rotarian or have not been to one before, it is an opportunity to understand more about Rotary and the job ahead of you. This is open to all members.

This week is our 'Youth Night' with our new Narooma Rotary Scholar, Heather Gow-Carey will be presented to the Club and we will hear of her aspirations and goals.

Make Dreams Real

Cheers

Ted

Tonight

Youth Night - Meet our new Rotary Scholar

Duties

TASK	29 January	5 February	12 February
Welcome/Wheel	Chris O'Brien	John Messner	Bob Aston
Cashier	John Messner	Angie Ulrichsen	Laurelle Pacey
Toast / thanks	Angie Ulrichsen	Laurelle Pacey	Max Reid
3-minute talk	Laurelle Pacey	Max Reid	Marilyn Gibson
FINES	Max Reid	Marilyn Gibson	Bob Antill
Introduction	Marilyn Gibson	Bob Antill	Angie Ulrichsen

Coming Events

29 January	Youth Night Meet our new Rotary Scholar
5 February	Club Assembly & Board Meeting
12 February	Transitional Towns
19 February	BBQ @ Paradise Point
22 February	Narooma Rotary Markets on NATA Oval
26 February	TBC

Last Week

Unfortunately I was absent from last week's meeting. From all reports it was a great night back at the Whale, being cared for by our hosts Matt and Jen.

A big crowd turned out at Sundays' Market to support the increased number of stall holders who booked in for the day. The gate took \$1242.80, the van \$813.00, wishing well \$37.00 and the white elephant \$26.35 making a total gross for the day of \$2119.15

It was great to see Fred and Pam Fawke with their excellent *ShelterBox* display at the market – It is just amazing to see what fits into the Box! A wonderful Rotary Project.

Bill Gates announces new US\$255 million grant for ending polio

By Arnold R. Grahl and Dan Nixon

Rotary International News -- 21 January 2009

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million.

Shortly after meeting with incoming district governors from the four countries where the wild poliovirus is endemic -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- Bill Gates announced the new grant on Wednesday morning at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Gates said. "However, complete elimination of the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

"We are going to end polio now," affirmed Robert S. Scott, chair of RI's International PolioPlus Committee.

In response to the new \$255 million Gates Foundation grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary committed to match by raising \$100 million.

The two Gates Foundation challenge grants now total \$355 million. Rotary International's matching effort in response is called Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

The \$255 million grant is one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest received by Rotary in its 104-year history. Rotary will spend the grant in direct support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which is spearheaded by RI and its partners, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF. Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to WHO and UNICEF.

The participation of Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians in Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge remains crucial to its success. Rotary has raised nearly \$73 million toward this amount: \$62 million in contributions and \$11 million in commitments. Each club is being challenged to organize a public fundraiser annually for the next three years. In October, The Rotary Foundation Trustees approved special Paul Harris Fellow Recognition, which begins 1 July, featuring a certificate with the End Polio Now logo.

Polio eradication has been Rotary's top priority since 1985, with more than \$1.2 billion contributed to the effort. Gates praised Rotary for providing the volunteers, advocates, and donors who have helped bring about a 99 percent decline in the number of polio cases. "The world would not be where it is without Rotary, and it won't get where it needs to go without Rotary," he said.

The final hurdle still is ahead, said RI President-elect John Kenny. This grant shows that the Gates Foundation is just as committed as Rotary to ridding the world of this disease, he said.

Gates also shared with the incoming district governors and Rotary leaders a story from his trip to India in November, when he held a nine-month-old girl afflicted with polio in his arms in a slum in East Delhi.

“She obviously didn’t understand why people were poking her legs and looking so serious. But she’ll never be able to kick a ball around, never be able to play hide-and-seek with her friends, because she has polio,” Gates said. “As I held Hashmin, I thought, We can end this.”

“We don’t know exactly when the last child will be affected. But we *do* have the vaccines to wipe it out,” he said. “Countries *do* have the will to deploy all the tools at their disposal. If we all have the fortitude to see this effort through to the end, then we *will* eradicate polio.”

In addition, the governments of the United Kingdom and Germany announced they have respectively committed \$150 million and \$130 million to eradicate polio, which will not count toward Rotary’s challenge.

Government support is key to polio eradication efforts, said Scott.

Anniversaries and Special Occasions for January

Birthdays

- 4th Steve Elphick
- 10th Sam Bladwell
- 17th Sue Fahey
- 20th Daiva Gaffney
- 25th Neville Gough
- 31st Maureen Young

Anniversaries

- 6th Bob and Therese Aston (Yes I remembered!)

International Toast

In honour of Erin’s exchange to Germany tonight we toast the Rotary Club Düsseldorf in District 1870. The Club was chartered in 1930. It has 93 members and meets on Monday at lunchtime.



Above: How many Rotarians does it take to fill the oil can?

The Funny Side

Cat and dog Diaries – What your pets really think!

A dog's diary:

7 am - Oh boy! A walk! My favourite!
8 am - Oh boy! Dog food! My favourite!
9 am - Oh boy! The kids! My favourite!
Noon - Oh boy! The yard! My favourite!
2 pm - Oh boy! A car ride! My favourite!
3 pm - Oh boy! The kids! My favourite!
4 pm - Oh boy! Playing ball! My favourite!
6 pm - Oh boy! Welcome home Mum! My favourite!
7 pm - Oh boy! Welcome home Dad! My favourite!
8 pm - Oh boy! Dog food! My favourite!
9 pm - Oh boy! Tummy rubs on the couch! My favourite!
11 pm - Oh boy! Sleeping in my people's bed! My favourite!

The cat's diary:

Day 183 of my captivity... My captors continued to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while I am forced to eat dry cereal. The only thing that keeps me going is the hope of escape, and the mild satisfaction I get from clawing the furniture.

Tomorrow I may eat another house plant. Today my attempt to kill my captors by weaving around their feet while they were walking almost succeeded - must try this at the top of the stairs. In an attempt to disgust and repulse these vile oppressors, I once again induced myself to vomit on their favourite chair - must try this on their bed.

Decapitated a mouse and brought them the headless body in an attempt to make them aware of what I am capable of, and to try to strike fear in their hearts. They only cooed and condescended about what a good little cat I was. Hmmm, not working according to plan.

There was some sort of gathering of their accomplices. I was placed in solitary throughout the event. However, I could hear the noise and smell the food. More important, I overheard that my confinement was due to my powers of inducing "allergies." Must learn what this is and how to use it to my advantage.

I am convinced the other captives are flunkies and maybe snitches. The dog is routinely released and seems more than happy to return. He is obviously a half-wit.

The bird, on the other hand, has got to be an informant and speaks with them regularly. I am certain he reports my every move. Due to his current placement in the metal room, his safety is assured. But I can wait; it is only a matter of time.

The Australia Day Duck Race Report– Thanks to Laurelle

Unfortunately the wind on the day was stronger than the current and blew the ducks all into the boats at Mill Bay but fortunately one persevered - No 366 belonging to Carol Miendl (?) apparently a local lady.

Brent and Sue Lockton in one of the VRA ducks reckoned they got the last one into Mill Bay - Non 339 bought by Terry Fraser of North Avoca Beach who has been staying at Island View.

Duck retrieval was courtesy of the VRA with Ben Bate and our very own Neville Gough in one rubber duck and Brent and Sue Lockton in the other, and our paddling Rotarians and partners Bob and Merinda Antill, and Chris O'Brien and Peter.

Thanks also due to Max Reid and Ted for sorting ducks and to Tony for running race.

Laurelle also reports that the Australia Ceremony was great - presented Heather Gow-Carey was presented with her Rotary Scholar Award and she also took out the Narooma Young Citizen of the Year Award.

